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May 18. 1900

1222

steamship *Rhynland*, to Philadelphia, 8 second-cabin, 219 steerage passengers, and 1 crew, with 270 pieces baggage, passed.

Respectfully,

J. H. OAKLEY,

Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

[Inclosure.]

Irish emigration.

QUEENSTOWN, IRELAND, *May 1, 1900.*

The largest number of emigrants from Ireland to the United States in any one year was in 1852, a short time after the famine, when 190,000 persons left the country. The numbers have decreased since then.

The figures for the ten years immediately preceding the present year, are as follows:

Year.	Emi- grants.	Year.	Emi- grants.
1890	43, 886	1895	44, 343
1891	45, 987	1896	34, 417
1892	42, 508	1897	28, 404
1893	41, 994	1898	27, 542
1894	31, 976	1899	34, 736

The present year starts off as though it would be a big year in comparison with the last ten years. Already 11,277 souls have left the country for the United States, 1,532 going by way of Londonderry and 9,745 by steamer from Queenstown. A small number (unknown) have been in the United States before.

These emigrants are all Irish and come from all parts of Ireland. Those sailing from Londonderry are from the north of Ireland and those that take steamer at Queenstown are from the southern and middle portions of the country. They are a hale and hearty lot and the greater majority of them are under 30 years of age and unmarried. Now and then a man with family comes along, but they are few and far between.

Ireland can ill afford to lose so much youth and energy. Emigration is at its height during the spring months, April and May, and the fall months, September and October, and at these seasons the newspapers discuss the matter dolefully; calling attention to the neglected farms and homes that are going to ruin throughout the country. The causes for this emigration of the young men and women are several. The fear of conscription has had its influence with the young men. * * *

The young women get nearly three times the pay for their services in the United States.

The area of Ireland is 32,583 square miles (about the size of Indian Territory). and the population at present is about 4,704,750, which, considering all the circumstances, appears to be too many for the country to support. The conditions at the time of the famine, when the population was about 8,000,000, can be imagined.

J. H. OAKLEY,

Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

ITALY.

Report from Genoa.

GENOA, ITALY, *April 30, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith the abstract of bills of health and the regular report for the week ended April 29, 1900:

April 24, the Italian steamship *Marco Minghetti* cleared for New York; 2 cabin and 38 steerage passengers and 40 pieces of baggage were inspected, labeled, and passed.

April 26, the North German Lloyd steamship *Ems* for New York; 16 cabin and 236 steerage passengers and 225 pieces of baggage were

inspected and passed. There was a rejection of an Italian youth suffering from fever.

Respectfully,

RUPERT BLUE,

Passed Assistant Surgeon. U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Report from Naples.

NAPLES, ITALY, *May 2, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that for the week ended May 2, 1900, the following ships were inspected:

April 27, the steamship *Ema*, of the North German Lloyd Steamship Company, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 35 cabin and 671 steerage passengers and 100 pieces of large and 600 pieces of small baggage. Two hundred and fifteen pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

April 28, the steamship *Marco Minghetti*, of the Italian Navigation Company, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 2 cabin and 532 steerage passengers and 64 pieces of large and 550 pieces of small baggage. Nine hundred and forty pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

April 28, the steamship *Massilia*, of the Fabre Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 1 cabin and 1,180 steerage passengers and 50 pieces of large and 1,200 pieces of small baggage. Two hundred and ninety-five pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

May 2, the steamship *Christiania*, of the Hamburg-American Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 614 steerage passengers and 86 pieces of large, and 665 pieces of small baggage.

At the inspection of the steamship *Massilia* there were 2 children rejected who had an eruption which closely resembled measles. These cases were taken to the isolation hospital. To-day I have been informed that the eruption on 1 of the cases has changed much in character and resembles that of smallpox. The attending physician, however, still withholds the diagnosis.

The disinfection of Sicilian baggage was discontinued May 1. All bedding, however, regardless of the place of origin, is disinfected.

Respectfully,

VICTOR G. HEISER,

Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

JAPAN.

Concerning plague in Osaka.

YOKOHAMA, JAPAN, *April 21, 1900.*

SIR: Referring to my letter of 16th instant, in which I reported the occurrence of 2 cases of plague in Osaka, on April 8 and 12, respectively, and noted that a third had, on the day of writing, been reported to me direct from Osaka, I have the honor to state that the return of the last case referred to proved to have been erroneous, it really alluding to the bacteriological verification of case No. 2.

A third instance of the disease was detected on the 18th, was clearly